Docket No.: S3100.0003/P0003
(PATENT)

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of:
Toru Ishii et al.

Application No.: 09/760,593   Art Unit: 3724

Filed: January 16, 2001   Examiner: P. H. Nguyen

For: PUNCHING APPARATUS AND THE
     PUNCHING UNIT THEREOF

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT/SUBMISSION

U.S. Patent and Trademark Office
220 20th Street S.
Customer Window, Mail Stop Amendment
Crystal Plaza Two, Lobby, Room 1B03
Arlington, VA 22202

Dear Sir:

INTRODUCTORY COMMENTS

Prior to issuance of a first Office Action after entry of the Request for Continued Examination filed herewith, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 3 of this paper.

Remarks/Arguments begin on page 7 of this paper.

FEE CALCULATION

Any additional fee required has been calculated as follows:

	Claims Remaining After	Highest Number Previously	Number Extra Claims	Rate	Additional Fee
Total	9	- 20* =	0	X 18.00	0.00
Independent	4	- 4** =	0	X 88.00	0.00
First presentation of Multiple Dependent Claim(s) (if applicable)					0.00
				TOTAL	0.00

*not less than 20   ** not less than 3

No fee is due. In the event any fee required during the prosecution of this application is not paid, the Patent Office is authorized to charge any underpayment or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 50-2215.

CONTINGENT EXTENSION REQUEST

If this communication is filed after the shortened statutory time period had elapsed and no separate Petition is enclosed, the Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks is petitioned, under 37 CFR 1.136(a), to extend the time for filing a response to the outstanding Office Action by the number of months which will avoid abandonment under 37 CFR 1.135. The fee under 37 CFR 1.17 should be charged to our Deposit Account No. 50-2215.